22nd February 1955]

Sri V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" Thanks."

Sri A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" Are the Government aware that there are more fish in the Bhavani river than ever came out of it? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Perhaps it is so and Government are trying to exploit them."

Tube wells in the South Arcot district.

* 178 *Q.*—Sri M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of tube wells sunk so far in the South Arcot district;

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal to sink any more tube wells; and

(*c*) the cost of the tube wells sunk so far?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) One.

" (*b*) The Government are considering a proposal for the sinking of one experimental tube well in Chingleput district.

" (*c*) Roughly Rs. 27,000."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message, dated the 21st February 1955, from the Hon. the Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

' In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Plantations Agricultural Income-Tax Bill, 1954 (L.A. Bill No. 30 of 1954), as passed by the Assembly on the 21st February 1955 and signed by me for the recommendations of the Council.

2. I certify that this is a Money Bill within the meaning of Article 199 of the Constitution of India.' "

III.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS PLANTATIONS AGRICULTURAL INCOME-TAX BILL, 1954 (L.A. BILL NO. 30 OF 1954).

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, I move—

' *That the Madras Plantations Agricultural Income-Tax Bill, 1954 (L.A. Bill* [a] *No. 30 of 1954), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration.*'

" In doing so I would like to point out to this House that the system of levy of land tax in this State has been subjected to the criticism that the burden of tax is not distributed equitably among the different classes of landowners and it is also generally accepted

[a] **Printed as Appendix on pages 44–82 infra.**